PRIDE PRESIDENT CONSTANCE KRISTOFIK INTERVIEWED ON JANE PAULEY SEE PAGE 5.

VALLEY GAY PRESS

SERVING THE LV GLBT COMMUNITY SINCE 1998

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 8 NO. 2 MARCH 2005

SPECIAL STATE SENATE ELECTION - APRIL 5 - YOU MUST GO TO THE POLLS!

LOCAL TV COVERS MCCLV'S FREEDOM TO MARRY COURT HOUSE ACTION

FIVE COUPLES HELP TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC & ALSO BECOME PART OF DOCUMENTED HISTORY

Five same-sex couples took part. Unlike most other Pennsylvania counties, Lehigh County actually allowed these couples to apply and will keep the denied applications on file. They have now become part of the history of the fight for marriage equality. The couples were: Maryann Kelly and Jennifer Andrews, Brenda Kern and Lisa Schaffer, Liz Bradbury and Trish Sullivan, Kipp Stone and John Sechler and Elizabeth Evans and Diane Poindexter.

Supporters from MCCLV stood outside the Lehigh County courthouse with signs stressing the need for marriage equality. Public reaction was favorable. Many of those who participated in the day's action were interviewed on television explaining the civil rights marriage brings.

Jennifer Andrews shows her denied application to the TV camera. She and her partner Maryann Kelly were shown on camera applying for a license in the Lehigh County offices. The MCC effort was led by Pastor Elizabeth Goudy. Rep. Pat Browne was interviewed on the TV report. Read what he said on page 8.

CABARET

Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus Cabaret 2005- "Isn't It Romantic" songs of Rodgers and Hart. Come see the disillusioned middle-aged businessman to the cute young "club guys" to the "leather master" and his love... Friday, March 4, 8 p.m. Rainbow Mountain Resort, $10. Show reservations:610-366-3320. For directions and dinner reservations: www.rainbowmountain.com.

GLBT Infoline
Greater Lehigh Valley
610-HELP-123
(610-435-7123)
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
6PM - 9PM

PA DIVERSITY GETS 501C3

PA Diversity Network, the parent organization of both Valley Gay Press and the GLBT Infoline, has been granted status as a 501c3 Charity Organization, retroactive to August 12, 2004. PA Diversity Network is now a tax deductible organization able to receive grant funding.

LIBERTY'S GSA EVENT

Liberty High School's GSA will be holding an open-mic talent show on Friday, April 22, starting at 7pm. Admission: $3. Proceeds benefit Liberty's GSA. For Information: gsa143@yahoo.com. LHS 1115 Linden, Bethlehem 610-691-7200.

PA-GALA TO MEET AT MCCLV

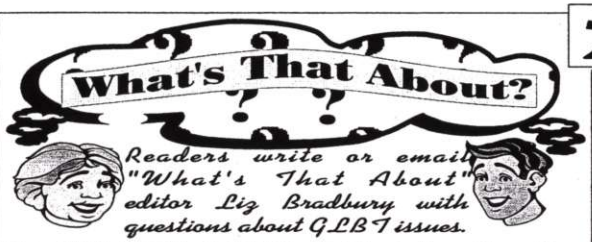
The Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) Lehigh Valley Region will meet on Thursday, March 3 at 7:30 pm at MCCLV - Merchants Square Mall, 1901 South 12th Street in Allentown. Topics to be discussed at the meeting include: Selection of New Regional Coordinators, Planning Fundraiser, Local Activist Training Seminar, Local Elections and State Legislative Initiatives. PA-GALA will meet on the 1st Thursday monthly (except July) at MCCLV. For more information contact PA-GALA Political Director Steve Black at 610-863-0227 or pagala@epix.net.

YOU CAN HELP FIGHT AIDS

OraSure Technologies, Inc., is holding two research studies on its oral HIV test. The company seeks people who know they are HIV negative and people who are HIV positive to participate in this non-invasive study which will involve the testing of oral fluid (saliva) and one tube of blood (1 teaspoon). All participants must be Hepatitis negative. The study should take about 30 minutes and all participants will receive $25. For more information, contact Allyson Doerr at (610) 332-2927.

GAYDAR MAGAZINE HAS HIT THE NEWSTANDS!

SEE STEVE'S ARTICLE ON PAGE 5



Dear WTA, I read in OutinLV that a letter to the editor written by Kurt Sauer and published in the Morning Call was changed so the meaning of the letter was altered. Did the editors at the Call do it because they are anti-gay? **Signed Reader**

Dear Reader, A letter that Kurt wrote was published in the Morning Call. It was about the religious right's foolish reaction to Spongebob. Kurt's original letter said in the last line, "Last I checked, no cases of homosexual conversion have ever been attributed to Bugs Bunny dressing in drag and kissing Elmer Fudd on the lips." But the editor at the MCALL changed the words "homosexual conversion," to "sexual perversion." Kurt and many others felt strongly that this changed the entire meaning of his letter. Kurt contacted the editor of the Call.

VGP editors contacted a person who is on the editorial board of the Call. She told us who had changed the letter and why he said he did so. We can confirm that the change was not made by someone intending to make the letter seem anti-gay. It seems, for the most part to be a misunderstanding of terms. VGP is still trying to speak directly to the editor who made the change. For more on this story, see next month's VGP.

VALLEY GAY PRESS

WEB SITE: WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

Publisher, Managing Editor --Liz Bradbury
Publisher, Editor -- Patrica Sullivan
Columnists: Liz Bradbury, Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKelvey Ruby Zebu, Donnie and Earl Snyder, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner

Valley Gay Press - The Lehigh Valley's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community Opinion and Newspaper (VGP) operates as part of **Pennsylvania Diversity Network** VGP owns the copyright to its articles and columns. No part may be reproduced without written permission of the Publisher VGP offers free copies for direct mail and hand-out distribution to Lehigh Valley area not-for-profit organizations and businesses. The opinions expressed by columnists are their own and should not be attributed to this paper

Organizations that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:
Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown 610-709-8800
PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
Allentown, 610.967.5219 HTTP://wwweastern-papflag.org/
Pride House at Muhlenberg College, Allentown
19th Street Theater -- 527 N 19th St. Allentown
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley (UUCLV)
-- 424 Center St., Bethlehem
Haven GLBTA Youth Group at UUCLV

Businesses that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:
Diamonz Nightclub --1913 W. Broad St., Bethlehem
Stonewall Bar -- 28-30 N. 10th St., Allentown
Candida's -- 247 N. 12th St., Allentown
Hava Java Coffee Shop -- N. 19th St.

Monthly Direct Mail Distribution
Currently the Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) mails the Valley Gay Press to its members. To become a member of PA-GALA, send $25 for an individual membership or $35 for a family membership to: PA-GALA PO Box 20825 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

To contact Valley Gay Press:
Mail to: PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 Phone: 610-432-5449
Email: liztrish@aol.com To arrange for your group or organization to receive copies to distribute, contact VGP. Some restrictions apply

RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

New Year's Resolutions

If financial planning is one of your resolutions for 2005, what are your options? While books can-and have-been written on financial planning for the gay community, there are a few high-level themes to keep in mind. In a relationship you can't take anything for granted. Keep in mind your partner can't rely on your Social Security benefits and some benefits from your employer's retirement plan may be unavailable to your partner. Other benefits require careful planning to maximize withdrawals and avoid potential tax traps. It's also important to be sure that you've designated your partner as a beneficiary on your retirement plans.

If your planning includes estate planning, the pitfalls are numerous. In addition to wills to be sure your property goes to your partner, you'll need to think about powers of attorney so your partner can make decisions when you can't. Moreover, you'll want a priority of visitation to ensure he or she has access to you when you're incapacitated. You'll have to plan harder to avoid estate taxes, because the estate tax marital deduction is not available.

Progressive financial institutions are recognizing the different needs of their lesbian and gay clients. Larger social forces are shifting the responsibility for the financial planning to the individual- from retirement plans to health insurance to estate taxes. These changes apply equally to the gay community. So it is up to you to plan for a secure retirement, to be sure your income stream is protected in the event of a disability, or to manage your investment portfolio. While you can't do all these things alone, you also can't assume someone else is doing them for you, either.

After all, the right financial advisor can help you make this year's resolution an easier one to keep. Have a prosperous New Year!

Denise McKelvey. CFS is a financial advisor for American Express Financial located at 5100 Tilghman Street Suite 170 Allentown PA 18104. Please mail or email questions to denise.m.mckelvey@aexp.com. Information contained in this article may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

NEW INTERFAITH CHURCH IN COALDALE

Temple Sophia, an Interfaith Sanctuary, has opened its doors in Coaldale, Pa. Temple Sophia's focus is on helping people grow spiritually without religious dogma. Readings to support the week's theme will come from all the worlds' sacred texts, plus secular sources. The Service will be fluid and change to meet the needs of that week's topic.

The facilitator/pastor of Temple Sophia is Bishop Tom Cormier Ep.Gn., I.M.. While living in the Lehigh Valley, Bishop Cormier was active in the GLBT community, serving on the board of UUCLV and it's Welcoming Congregation Committee, the Pride board, AHRC committee on inclusion and diversity, as a member of PA-GALA and was one of the participating clergy for the last 5 MCC NFTMD Blessing of Relationships. Temple Sophia is an open, welcoming and affirming sanctuary that believes "we are all God's children and deserving of love and respect" and holds that homosexuality is a natural human condition and GLBT persons and relationships should be affirmed and supported.

MCCLV'S EASTER SERVICES

Easter Season Services at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley, S.12th and Vultee Streets. - Seder meal, Holy Thursday, March 24, 7pm. - "He's Alive" Easter Drama, Good Friday, March 25, 7pm. - Easter Sunday Worship Service: Sunday March 27, 10:30am and 6:00 pm.

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

HOT NEWS

HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQ youth ages 14 - 20. For information: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610-868-2153. HAVEN needs facilitators & volunteers for meetings and the Prizm Prom. Facilitator training provided.

PFLAG TIMES

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, www.eastern-pa-pflag.org. e-mail:info@eastern-pa-pflag.org. Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 1st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 1st Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234 .Meeting Dates: Allentown: March 1, April 5, May 3. Monroe: March 2, April 6, May 4. Reading: March 15, April 19, May 17.

GLORA EVENTS

GLORA (The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown) hosts social events for the GLBT community. For more information and/or directions contact GLORA2004 @aol.com. To sponsor an event or to join GLORA and receive their newsletter, write GLORA, PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541.

STEVIE Z

Stevie Z will be at the Stonewall/ MooseLounge in Allentown on Friday March 11 and Saturday March 26 from 9PM-Midnite. NO cover on Fridays ; $5 after 9PM on Saturday nites. Half of all tips received will be shared with the new GLBT Infoline. Stevie will also play Friday, April 8 & Saturday April 23, Friday May 13 & Saturday May 28 - In April/May half the tips go to Greater Lehigh Valle PRIDE.

ACCO

ACCO -A Chorus Celebrating Women to present "Gather the Women with Song, Dance & Drum," Tuesday, March 8, 7:00-9:30PM www.accochorus.org

BUCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DOES MARRIAGE

Bucks County Community College held a same-sex wedding on Valentine's Day at the Newtown Campus, with much of the college community in attendence. The Open Door Club sponsored the event and worked tirelessly to plan, decorate, and make all the arrangements.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS ELECTS NEW BOARD

In January, the LVGMC welcomed new members to the board of directors and elected Steven H. Olofson as Chair, Karina Seebohm as Vice-Chair, Robert Roush as Treasurer and Anthony Young as Secretary. The chorus continues to prepare for its 10th anniversary concert on June 4. New members (singing and non-singing) are welcome to join anytime. Phone: 610-366-3320, e-mail: info@lvgmc.org, website: www.lvgmc.org.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS PARTICIPATES IN SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S, EASTON

St. John's Lutheran Church on Ferry Street in Easton hosted a group from the LVGMC on Sunday, February 13. Seven members of the chorus attended and sang as part of the prelude and at two places during the service. They were warmly welcomed by the congregation. Members of the chorus stated that they often are invited to perform, but rarely as part of the actual church service. "We wanted them to be part of the service so that as many as possible of the congregation could enjoy their singing," said St. John's minister, the Rev. Grace Olson.

St. John's is a Reconciling in Christ congregation, meaning that a statement was officially passed at a congregational meeting stating that gays and lesbians were welcome to participate fully in the life of the congregation. All are welcome at the 10:30 services Sunday mornings as well as at any other church activities. Call 610-258-6119 for further information.

ARTWORK

Rachel Thompson's painting, "Concrete and Flowers," was selected for the prestigious Artsquest juried botanical art show. The show runs until March 27 at the Banana factory, at 25 W 3ard street, Bethlehem. Proceeds from the sale of this painting, less commission, will be donated to HAVEN youth group in support of the upcoming GLBT prom.

GLOSS EVENTS

GLOSS (the Gay & Lesbian Organized Sports Society) offers sports & social activities, indoors & out, throughout the winter months. New members always welcome. The schedule for March-April: Bowling: Mar 11. Game Night: Mar 25, Apr 16. Pinochle: Apr 2. For more information contact GLOSS. Phone: 610-434-2966. Email: Info@gloss.org. Web: www.gloss.org.

INTERWEAVE EVENTS

Interweave of UUCLV to hold a multi-state, 1-day Spring Retreat on Saturday, May 7. Seeking workshop proposals & presenters. Workshop should focus in some way on GLBTIA &/or spirituality issues. All ideas considered. A drum circle is all ready planned.

Interweave is the GLBTAI group at the UUCLV. Meetings are held at noon, every 3rd Sunday. For contact info, see Interweave & UUCLV in the center spread directory, or email allysondiane@hotmail.com.

AA MEETINGS

G.A.Y. Alcoholics Anonymous at MCCLV (1901 S. 12th St.& Vultee MERCHANTS MALL in ALLENTOWN) is an "open" AA GLBT Specialty Meeting. WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:30PM-8:30PM. Everyone who has a desire to stop drinking; to educate themselves about alcoholism (which should be everyone); who is effected by alcoholism; family, professionals, nonprofessionals; those who deal with alcoholics, nurses, police, politicians, lawyers, judges; those who dealt with alcoholics, mentors, clergy, parents, partners, spouses, children of alcoholics, teachers; those who think they may have a problem with alcohol; and those, who think they don't have a problem and don't know any alcoholics....are welcome.

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY EVENTS IN MARCH

LGBTQ Programs & Outreach is continuing to inspire Lehigh University's vision of diversity by offering educational and social programs geared toward issues related to the LGBTQ community. Events and programs: March 14-18 -* LGBT Health Awareness Week. March16 - Noon - Ally Training. March 23 - Noon Brown Bag Lunch topic, Subcultures @ Lehigh. For information contact: safspace@lehigh.edu

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

CALENDAR

AA --AA meetinss on Wednesdays at MCCLV, Begin at 7:30pm
ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women,
AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424
AIDSWALK- AIDSWALK Lehigh Valley - 610.974.8701 www.regiononline.com/lvaids
ASC-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701
All Together Now - Supportive Ecumenical Christians, 610-398-1286, bluemountain@entermail.net
BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360
B&N- Barnes and Noble Gay&Lesbian Book Club, White hall store, Monthly, 7:00pm
CIVIC and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, <.civictheater,com>
CUUPS -- Covenenat of Unitarian Universalist Pagans every 4th Sunday at noon at the UUCLV. uuclv_cuups@yahoogroups.com.
Enigma Players -- qacres@prolog.net
equal@agere - email: equal@agere.com
FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519
GLEE at Air Products
GLISN- at Dun & Bradstreet, <vagranthollow.com/GLISN/>
GLORA- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (Social gatheringvarious dates) Newsletter- The Tassle. Write to: GLORA, PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541, email-GLORA2004@aol.com
GLOSS - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610.434.2966.
GLOW- at PPL
HAVEN GLBT Youth Group of the UUC LV - call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com
HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716
Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 gamba.guy@verizon.net"
Infoline - Greater LV GLBT Infoline: 610-HELP123 (435-7123) M-F 6pm -9pm Office: 610-432-5449
INTERWEAVE -- GLBTAI group at the UUCLV. 3rd Sundays.. Interweave_UUCLV@yahoo groups..com. www.uuclvpa.org 610-866-7652.
LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email:info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvgmc.org> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem
Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition- 610-610-997-0976, humanrights4all@aol.com, 610-814-0530 JamesHalleman@aol.com
MCC - Metropolitian Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclehigh valley@ yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-709-8800
NCC- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 882-2531
19th St & Civic Theatre - 610.432.8943
Out There- Students at Cedar Crest College
OVOM-LV Documentary Film Org.
PA-Diversity Network- 610-432-5449 www.padiversity.org PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
PA-GALA - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for Political Action, (Candidate Guide, & Political Lobbying) P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610.432.5449 pagala.org
PARENTS- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519
PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 <HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/>

MARCH 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 LV PFLAG GLOSS	2 M PFLAG HAVEN MCC	3 PA-GALA Meeting	4 LVGMC Concert MCC Games	5 WDIY GLOSS
6 WDIY UUCLV HMFF	7 LVGMC RAA	8 GLOSS ACCO Concert	9 HAVEN AA MCC Pride MTG	10 GLOSS RAA B&N BOOKCLUB	11 GLOSS bowling	12 WDIY GLOSS
13 HMFF WDIY UUCLV MCC Pride Ben GLOSS Bowling	14 LVGMC Pride MTG RAA	15 GLOSS PFLAG R Lehigh Health Awareness Week	16 Pride HAVEN MTG AA	17 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P	18 MCC Games	19 GLOSS WDIY GLOSS Games
20 HMFF MCC GLOSS WDIY UUCLV	21 LVGMC RAA	22 GLOSS	23 HAVEN Lehigh Ally Tr AA	24 RAA GLOSS MCC Seder Pride MTG	25 MCC Drama GLOSS Game	26 GLOSS WDIY Stevie Z Pride Ben
27 WDIY GLOSS UUCLV CUUPS HMFF MCC	28 LVGMC RAA	29 GLOSS	30 HAVEN AA	31 RAA GLOSS Pride Ben		

APRIL 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 GLOSS GLOSS Pinochle WDIY
3 MCC UUCLV WDIY HMFF	4 LVGMC RAA	5 Special Election LV PFLAG	6 HAVEN AA M PFLAG	7 RAA GLOSS	8 Stevie Z MCC Games	9 WDIY GLOSS Ski
10 Pride Ben MCC HMFF WDIY UUCLV	11 LVGMC	12 GLOSS	13 HAVEN AA	14 RAA B&N BOOKCLUB GLOSS	15 Interweave Movie GLOSS bowling	16 WDIY GLOSS PRIDE Ben GLOSS Games
UUCLV 17 MCC HMFF WDIY	18 RAA LVGMC	19 GLOSS PFLAG R	20 HAVEN AA	21 RAA GLOSS	22 MCC Games GLOSS Pin.	23 Stevie Z WDIY GLOSS Lib GSA
MCC 24 UUCLV GLOS WDIY Interweave Forum	25 LVGMC RAA	26 GLOSS	27 HAVEN AA	28 RAA GLOS	29	30 WDIY GLOSS

MAY 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 MCC WDIY HMFF UUCLV	2 RAA LVGMC	3 GLOSS LV PFLAG	4 M PFLAG HAVEN	5 GLOSS RAA	6 MCC Games	7 GLOSS PRIDE Ben. WDIY
8 MCC WDIY HMFF UUCLV	9 LVGMC RAA	10 GLOSS	11 HAVEN AA	12 GLOSS RAA	13 Stevie Z GLOSS bowling	14 WDIY GLOSS
15 MCC WDIY HMFF UUCLV	16 RAA LVGMC	17 GLOSS PFLAG R	18 HAVEN AA	19 RAA B&N BOOKCLUB GLOSS	20 MCC Games	21 WDIY GLOSS GLOSS GAMES
22 Prizm Prom	23 RAA LVGMC	24 GLOSS	25 HAVEN AA	26 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P	27	28 WDIY GLOSS
29 HMFF UUCLV GLOS MCC WDIY	30 LVGMC RAA	31 GLOSS				

Pride - Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <info@prideglv.org>, <www.prideglv.org>
QuEST - Student group at Lafayette College ,
Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA. Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.
RAA- Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs. At 16th and Turner.
Ren- Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., Meets at MCCLV renlv.org
Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244
Reading P-FLAG- 610-967-5219
Safe Space- At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973
Saint John's Lutheran Church- A welcoming, gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown 610.435.1587
Softball-(Women's) call Diamonz, 610.865.1028
Spectrum- at Lehigh Univ., 610.758.5973
T.O. - Theatre Outlet-29 Nth 9th St, Allentown, 610-820-9270.
Unity-26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417
UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.
VGP - Valley Gay Press, 610.432.5449, liztrish@aol.com VGP PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley PA 18002 www.padiversity.org
VYH - Valley Youth House for emotionally troubled GLBT youth 610.432.6481
Wachovia-GALEA- Gay And Lesbian Employee Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com
WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm. 610-694-8100.88.

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN - WEDNESDAYS
LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG - 1ST WEDS
READING - PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL -TUESDAYS
GLOSS TENNIS - SUNDAYS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL-TUES & SATS
GLOSS BOWLING - 2ND FRIDAYS
MCC STORIES - LAST FRIDAYS
MCC GAME NIGHTS-1ST & 3RD SATS
INTERWEAVE - 3RD SUNDAYS

MAR 1 - ALLENTOWN PFLAG
MAR 2 - MONROE PFLAG
MAR 2 - MCCLV LENTEN SERIES
MAR 3 - PA-GALA MEETING
MAR 4 - LVGMC CABARET
MAR 8 - ACCO CONCERT
MAR 9 - MCCLV LENTEN SERIES
MAR 9 - PRIDE MEETING
MAR 11 - GLOSS BOWLING
MAR 11- STEVIEZ@MOOSELOUNGE
MAR 13 - PRIDE BENEFIT @DIAMONZ
MAR 14 - PRIDE BOARD MTG
MAR 14-18 - LEHIGH LGBT HEALTH AWARENES
MAR 15 - READING PFLAG
MAR 16 - PRIDE MEETING
MAR 23 - LEHIGH ALLY TRAINING
MAR 24 - MCC SEDER
MAR 24 - PRIDE MEETING
MAR 25 - GLOSS GAME NIGHT
MAR 25 - MCC GOOD FRIDAY
MAR 27 - MCC EASTER SERVICE
MAR 26 - STEVIEZ@MOOSELOUNGE
MAR 26 - PRIDE BENEFIT @ UUCLV
MAR 31 - PRIDE BENEFIT @ STONEWALL
APR 2 - GLOSS PINOCHLE
APR 5 - SPECIAL ELECTION - STATE SENATOR
APR 5 - ALLENTOWN PFLAG
APR 6 - MONROE PFLAG
APR 8 - STEVIEZ@MOOSELOUNGE
APR 10 - PRIDE FLAG FOOTBALL
APR 16 - GLOSS GAME NIGHT
APR 19 - READING PFLAG
APR 22 -LIBERTY HS GSATALENT SHOW
APR 23 - STEVIEZ@MOOSELOUNGE
MAY 3- ALLENTOWN PFLAG
MAY 4 - MONROE PFLAG
MAY 7 - INTERWEAVE FORUM
MAY 13 - STEVIEZ@MOOSELOUNGE
MAY 17 - READING PFLAG
MAY 22 - HAVEN PRIZM PROM
JUNE 19 - PRIDE FESTIVAL

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449
LIZTRISH@AOL.COM

GREATER LV PRIDE EVENTS

Sunday, March 13:: Apollo & his Pride escape winter blizzards – See Pride Board Members drag it up! Diamonz, 9:45pm, 9pm, $5 cover, 18+show
Saturday, March 26: 2nd Annual MUDSLIDE! Revel in mud-slinging chocolate pudding fun as your friends, community leaders and favorite illusionists romp against fudge-caked foes at center stage! UUCLV Gymnasium, 424 Center Street (use Wall St. entrance) Bethlehem, $5 admission, children under 12 free. To enter, email volunteers@prideglv.org
Hosted by 2005 King of Pride Apollo. Special thanks to Sabastian, 2004 King of Pride, for this fun and messy creation.
Thursday, March 31, Tequila, Queen of Pride, Stonewall, Allentown. Details tba at www.prideglv.org
Sunday, April 10: Flag football w/Apollo, details tba: contact volunteers@prideglv.org

PRIDE MEETINGS:
Fundraising – Wednesday, March 9, 7pm at Diamonz, West Broad Street, Bethlehem, for info: volunteers@prideglv.org
Board Meeting – Monday, March 14, 7pm at Long & Foster, 3200 Farmersville Rd, Bethlehem, for info: ckristofik@prideglv.org
Pride in the Park – Wednesday, March 16, 7pm at Long & Foster, 3200 Farmersville Rd, Bethlehem, for info: jlipsky@prideglv.org
Scholarship – Thursday, March 24, 7pm at Panera Bread, Tilghman & Cedar Crest, Allentown, for info: rainbowscholarship @prideglv.org
Film – next meeting in April, tba, for info: filmfest@prideglv.org

PRIDE RESIGNATIONS
Pride is sad to say goodbye to Mark Bodkin, former VP, Festival Chair and Board Member, and David Baldwin, Parade Chair and former Board Member. Their hard work and dedication helped create the 2004 Pride in the Park extravaganza. Pride wishes them the best of luck with future endeavors.

CARSON & CONSTANCE ON TV

Carson Kressley, breakaway star of Bravo's Queer Eye, was the special guest on the Feb 23 Jane Pauley TV show. GLV Pride President, and good friend of Carson, Constance Kristofik, appeared on the show and spoke with Carson about his support of Pride's Rainbow Scholarship.

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

....& FEARLESS PREDICTIONS

First a public THANK YOU to all who have supported the first issue of **Gaydar Magazine**. It is selling well, according to Heidi at Borders in Whitehall. 40 copies in 2 weeks.(compared to 10/month for the Advocate) Whaddya saywego for the all time periodical record for this Borders Bookstore? And, remember 5% goes to Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley!! We have also been receiving requests for subscriptions and a female version of Gaydar. Look for it by fall. Until then, we will have quite a few lesbian related items by actual card-carrying lesbians in the next few issues of Gaydar.

Now on to more serious and pressing matters. I know this won't come out until after the Academy Awards, but it's become a tradition that I make my fearless forcast of winners for Hollywood's night to congradulate itself. I ask that the editor please document that I did send this in on February 19 (yep, LB), eight days before the Awards telecast. **Best Picture:** should be **Ray**, but will be **Million Dollar Baby**. I LOVED Ray & Million Dollar Baby & **Finding Neverland**. I liked **Sideways**. **The Aviator** was too long and, quite honestly, I didn't care. That said, **Martin Scorcese** will finally take the Oscar for **Best Director** for The Aviator. Not because he deserves it over **Clint Eastwood**, but because the Academy has embarrassed itself long enough and they will want to acknowledge his body of work. Please don't let him become the Susan Lucci of filmdom. **Best Actor** will be...hmmm, this one's a tough call. I'm going out on a ledge here...but, since he's won the lion's share of the pre-academy awards, lets toss **Jaime Foxx** a bone and say he'll win. I know it's daring but, but that's the kind of guy I am. That said, I wouldn't mind seeing any of the others win with the exception of **Leonardo Di Caprio**. He has that same quality that irks me about **Winona Ryder**. They never let me forget they are acting. Yes, it is their fault! Now we come to the **Best Actress** Category. Some have complained this is the weakest best actress category in years. To them I say Pa-shaw!! I saw all the nominees and would be happy if any of them won. In any other year the Academy would bestow the honor to **Imelda Staunton** for her gutsy titular role in **Vera Drake** or to newcomer **Catalina Sandino Moreno** for her portrayal of a drug mule in **Maria Full of Grace**. (If you didn't see them in the theatre, catch them on DVD.) What I really want is for those two actresses to swap roles. I want and need to see Imelda Staunton as a drug mule. Best Actress will be a repeat showdown of the 2000 Academy Awards when **Hilary Swank** stole the Oscar from **Annette Bening**'s grasp. For the record, Hilary deserved it! Hilary will steal it again and Annette will be no happier than she was the first time. For the record, Hilary deserves it again! They were both great performances, but tough titties! **Best Supporting Actor** will go to **Morgan Freeman** for Million Dollar Baby and a career of unforgettable characters and for an oversight called The Shawshank Redemption. The **Supporting Actress** award will also make up for past wrongs by finally rewarding **Cate Blanchett** (passed over for her work in Elizabeth- the award went to Gwenyth Paltrow for Shakespeare in Love!) for her turn as Katherine Hepburn in The Aviator. **Best Animated Feature** will be **The Incredibles** (which should've been nominated in the Best Picture category).

PLANET Parenthood

by Earl and Donnie Snyder
donniearlucas@msn.com

GETTING THE WORLD TO KNOW US

Gay parents wonder, "Will the school years be difficult for our child because we are gay?" That question has nagged us subconsciously more than any of the others. In fact it's a concern we've had during the last year with our 12 year old foster child as well. So far, in the realm of family, friends and co-workers, our children have not been impacted negatively due to our sexual orientation, but we worry about how our children's friends and their families may react. Will other children ostracize ours? Will our children have closed-minded teachers who believe "gay" and "lesbian" are dirty words? We've heard of such things in the national news recently.

So far, all has apparently been going well for our 12-year-old foster child. He has no issues with us, but it helps that his grandmother is a lesbian. He has a friend stay overnight frequently, but it helps that his friend's mother's best friend is gay. His teachers have not shown any kind of discrimination, but it helps that some of his teachers know us personally, as former students. This knowledge seems to conquer the ignorance and fear that exists when prejudice is prevalent. Those who have gotten to know gay and lesbian men and women personally are ultimately more accepting. The simple solution may be to get the world to know us. Know us as gay and lesbian parents and ultimately just as parents, all working to help raise our children in a society filled with challenges. That solution is quite idealistic and takes a lot of courage, but it is our hope.

In the meantime, how do we handle each individual instance of discrimination, prejudice or hate our child may face? What type of experiences have you and your children had relative to your family's orientation? How have you handled negative situations? What positive experiences have you and your children had? We would really appreciate your input. It is a way you can help to support other parents like yourself. Please contact us at our email address: donniearlucas@msn.com. We hope to hear from you.

HAVEN PRESENTS 2005 PRIZM PROM

HAVEN presents 2005 PRIZM PROM, the 2nd Annual Prom for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and Allied Youth in the Lehigh Valley & Surrounding Areas. Sunday, May 22, from 7-11 pm at the Radisson Hotel in Bethlehem. The chaperoned event is open to youth between the ages of 14-20. Anyone who is not 14-20, must contact HAVEN for prior approval. Tickets are $25.00 per person if purchased before April 30, $30.00 after. Tickets can be purchased at HAVEN's weekly Wednesday 7 pm meetings at the UUCLV (424 Center St., Bethlehem). The event will be alcohol, substance & smoke free. Formal attire is strongly recommended, black tie optional. The 2004 Prizm Prom Court will be crowned at 10 pm.

HAVEN thanks American Hairlines and GLOW at PPL for their generous contributions. More sponsors & advertisers are needed. For more info, to get tickets, for details on local retail discounts, to donate, or to advertise, please contact HAVEN (web: www.prizmprom.com email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com phone 610.868.2153).

SCOTT SAYS ©

By Scott Laubner

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

Downtown Allentown has a new gay owned boutique. Located between Leather Masters II and the Hoffbrau Haus at 1025 Hamilton Street, A Different Eye reminds me of the little cardshops I visit in New York City. In fact the owners are transplants from the Big Apple. The store is normally open Monday through Saturday from 11am to 6pm but for the big grand opening on Saturday, March 5 the store will open from 11am to 7pm. The store has a nice selection of greeting cards, adult men's magazines, jewelry, soap, frames, flags, body glide, gift wrap, t-shirts candles, baseball hats, bath gel, gourmet cookies and copies of the Valley Gay Press. The manager told me they will also be carrying Gaydar, the new local gay magazine and, because they want to be a good neighbor they will not carrying leather goods (or beer.)

PA-GALA TRAINING

The Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) and the Center for Lesbian & Gay Civil Rights will hold a "Local Activist Training Seminar" on Saturday, April 2 from 9 am until 4 pm at the MCCLV - Merchants Square Mall, 1901 South 12th Street in Allentown. The Training Seminar will be free and include lunch. The Seminar will focus on training local activists to organize a local campaign to pass a Human Relations Ordinance that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in housing, employment and public accommodations in their communities.

Topics of the Seminar will include: leadership and public speaking training, dealing with media; how to lobby local officials; importance of including gender identity; drafting the ordinance; making non-discrimination an issue in local elections; building support in the lgbt community; building support in the "straight" community; building support among elected officials; how elected officials and candidates can talk about lgbt issues; legal challenges to local ordinances in PA; voter registration; volunteer recruitment; electing an openly lgbt person to public office; etc. Presenters will include leaders who have worked to pass local ordinances in their local communities.

PA-GALA encourages people from Bethlehem, Easton, Reading, Bucks County and Montgomery County to participate Contact PA-GALA Political Director Steve Black at smblack@epix.net or 610-863-4961 for more information to discuss the seminar and your participation in more detail.

PARKWAY STINGS

Anonymous citizens have been complaining to Allentown police about "illegal activity" in the city's parks. Please be aware that people engaging in inappropriate behavior in the parks, or often only accused of inappropriate behavior, have been charged with serious violent crimes and are subject to fines of $1700 and jail terms. Do not commit acts anywhere in the park that are illegal, vigilantes are following people and providing license plate numbers to the police. Meanwhile, the actions of these vigilantes are similar to stalking and may be illegal. If you have been harassed by these vigilante stalkers in the park, please contact Valley Gay Press at 610-432-5449.

TOUCHSTONE SIGNS ON

Touchstone Theater in Bethlehem has signed onto the anti-discrimination statement that can be found on page 8 of the Valley Gay Press.

LIZ OUT LOUD

SALUTING 2004

By Liz Bradburg

I was reading the Funny Times, a hilarious newspaper that collects political cartoons and humor columns, and I hit on this pithy statement:

Do you remember the exact day you decided people suck? I do. It was the day Trix cereal had the vote on whether the rabbit should be allowed to get any Trix. And America overwhelmingly voted No."

Now, while the statement itself makes sense abstractly, anybody who knows me knows I'm a stickler for truth, details and trivia. I happen to know for example, that in 1980, the results of the great "Rabbit Getting the Trix" vote, ended with kids actually voting in **favor** of the Rabbit getting a bowl...one bowl only...of Trix.

But the result pales in relation to the "legislation" itself. There's a disturbing comparison that can be made to any civil rights legislation and this stupid advertising campaign of the 80s. Stop and think, why shouldn't the Rabbit get a damn bowl of Trix? It wouldn't hurt anyone. Who arbitrarily decided that Trix are for (human) kids, exclusive of anyone else? And why, in America, should the decision as to anyone's rights be up to the majority, regardless if there is a possibility that the majority might vote in favor of those rights? Human rights are supposed to be inalineable. That a Saturday morning ad campaign even suggested to children that they should be able to choose who gets to eat and who doesn't, based on the class of that person, is not only cruel, it's anti-American. If you can't imagine the similarity to votes on civil rights like same-sex marriage rights, think harder.

In the last presidential election, George W. used a significant portion of his 200 million dollar campaign war chest to drive the wedge of same-sex marriage into the psyches of voters in Constitutional Amendment voting states. Fear and misinformation were churned up constantly, just to get the vote out of those who desperately needed to feel the superiority of class privilege. Imagine if a million had be spent by the anti-Rabbit campaign to convince kids that a rabbit eating his Trix, would spoil their own Trix at home?

The incredible thing is, even with tens of millions of dollars, colossal media blitzes of anti-gay advertising, paid-off news commentators, little support from the other side and hate spewing from the mouths of every conservative minister, the American people still support same-sex marriage rights at 42% (more than double the support of ten years ago). The percentage of support only went down over the last year by a tiny and probably temporary 4%. We shouldn't be discouraged by that. Sooner or later everyone will be invited to the (breakfast) table. Trix all around.

MCC KNITTING CIRCLE

Do you crochet or knit? Would you like to learn or teach someone how? The Knitting/Crochet circle at MCCLV meets every Monday. The goal is to make comfort/pray shawls or blankets for those in need. If you are housebound or would like to help from home, you can make squares that can be stitched with other squares to create blankets. Patterns will be available. Don't want to crochet or knit, but would like to come out in fellowship? Bring your art/craft project and join the circle for a fun night out. For more information or to donate knitting needles, crochet hooks, or yarn contact the Church at 610-709-8800.

GLOSS EMAIL GROUPS

GLOSS offers many activities for people with different interests and has an email group through Yahoo! Groups for each activity. If you want to find and get together with others who share your interests join a specific group. Send an empty email message to xxx-subscribe at yahoogroups.com, where xxx is the name of the group (see www.gloss.org). For example, if you would like to join the outdoors group, send a message to gloss-outdoors-subscribe at yahoogroups.com. You may join as many groups as you like.

TRISH'S COLUMN

By Patricia Sullivan

PATTY BOUVIER IS A LESBIAN AND SPRINGFIELD IS SO GAY!

Sunday night's episode of "The Simpsons" came with a viewer advisory that some portions of the material might be objectionable because the topic matter included same-sex marriage. And an interesting episode it was. When the minister refused to marry same-sex couples, Lisa Simpson, Homer's leftist leaning daughter and a dedicated reader of the VGP, suggested to the townsfolk our editor's idea that legalizing same-sex marriages would economically improve a financially depressed state. Homer took Kate Clinton's advice and got a minister's license through the internet so he could personally cash in with his own Vegas style wedding chapel. He built it and they came!

Speculation abounded as to who would come out in this episode. Longtime viewers of "The Simpsons" knew there were lots of possibilities - Lenny and Carl, Moe the bartender, Waylon Smithers or Patty Bouvier (who both rode on the "Stayin in the Closet" float in Springfield's Pride Parade) and Ned Flanders the Simpson's fundamentalist Christian neighbor who, by the way, was conspicuously absent from this episode.

But Patty Bouvier, Marge Simpson's sister was, I thought, an obvious choice because it let the writers address the issue of a family member disclosing their sexual orientation. Patty and Marge had to face a real life situation all too familiar to GLBT people. Patty had not come out to her sister Marge because she feared her sister would reject her when she learned of her sexual orientation. Marge was shocked, not because Patty disclosed she was a lesbian, but because Marge loved her sister very much and couldn't believe her sister would not have told her long ago. Because Marge and Patty don't talk about the things in life that really really matter to each of them, their communication breaks down and Patty tells Marge, "If you can't accept me as I am, don't come to my wedding."

Patty met her fiancee at a pro golf tournament. Since we're talking about stereotypes, the program did slide down that slippery slope by having a "hillbilly" brother and sister and a man and his pig each ask Homer to marry them. He didn't marry them by the way. Instead, Homer imagines falling in love with and marrying himself and having multiple little Homer clones, pointing out just how ridiculous such notions are. Anyway, before Homer could marry Patty and Veronica, Marge discovers Veronica is really a man in a dress. Yes, a man who wanted to play on the women's pro golf circuit. Marge exposes Veronica as a man. He tries to get Patty to marry him anyway. Patty, screaming lesbian that she is, shouts..."No, I LIKE GIRLS!!!" At that moment Liz and I each let out a nervously held breath because we feared the writers would cave to Fox's far right influence and play the "all you have to do is meet the right man" gambit. They didn't. Whew.

L. Brent Bozell, president of the Parents Television Council, criticized the episode he hadn't watched. "You've got a show watched by millions of children. Do children need to have gay marriage thrust in their faces as an issue? Why can't we just entertain them?" A better question is, did the fifty million people who watched this prime time episode learn anything? Will Marge now tell her children "I would love and support you if you are gay, because I just want you to be healthy, happy and the best person you can be." Will any of the millions of parents watching the show tell their kids that? I hope so.

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

POP QUIZ

1. Who just recently said," Just because you're a lesbian, doesn't mean you're less of a bein."
A. Tammy Faye Baker B. Marge Simpson
C. The Dixie Chicks D. SpongeBob

2. Which US state's lower supreme court recently ruled in favor of same-sex marriage?
A. CT B. ME C. RI D. NY

3. Who just recently said, "I'm glad that I believe very fervently that Jesus would not be on the side of gay bashers." A. Archbishop Desmond Tutu B. John Kerry
C. Bishop Gene Robinson D. Coretta King

4. Which arch conservative's daughter recently came out publicly as a lesbian?" A. Allan Keyes
B. Antonin Scalia C. Jesse Helms D. Pat Robertson

5. When the conservative from the previous question called Mary Cheney a "selfish hedonist" he:
A. did not know his daughter was a lesbian.
B. had not spoken to his daughter in 20 years.
C. already knew his daughter was a lesbian.
D. had used his daughter to work on his campaign.

6. When she came out publicly he: A. disowned her.
B. refused to speak to her
C. would not give her money for college.
D. all of the above.

7. Ellen DeGeneres is currently doing an ad campaign for: A. Verison B. American Express
C. Visa D. KFC

8. A Wyoming town now has an out gay mayor it's:
A. Laramie B. Mt. Rushmore C. Casper D. Cody

9. Totally out world famous architect Philip Johnson died in January. He was: A. 75 B. 82 C. 90 D. 98

10. Which of these buildings did Philip Johnson not design? A. Glass House B. Seagram Building
C. AT&T Tower D. Falling Water House

1.B 2.D 3.A 4.A 5.C&D 6.D 7.B 8.C 9.D 10.D

G LV PRIDE'S RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP

This new program will assist gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex (glbti), college-bound teens with school expenses while increasing the positive visibility of queer youth and promoting awareness and acceptance in the community at large. Community partners include MCC-LV, Carson Kressley, and Eastern PA PFLAG. Three prizes will be awarded onstage at the annual Pride in the Park celebration on June 19, 2005.

1.Queer Student of the Year –$200 awarded to a queer teen who is a positive force in the glbti community through their involvement and participation in community activities.

2. Rainbow Award –$200 awarded to a queer student based on academic excellence.

3. Diversity Essay Contest– $100 winner of an essay contest, which is open to all college-bound youth regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

High schoolstudents in: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Schuylkill and Warren counties are eligible. Details are available online at www.prideglv.org. Information packets with applications have been mailed to the area's public schools. Application deadline: Monday, April 4, 2005. Winners will be notified in late May. For additonal information and applications: contact scholarship chair Rachel Zane at rainbowscholarship@prideglvorg.

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin,ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA Diversity Network

GLBT Infoline

PA-GALA

Valley Gay Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the GLV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater 19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley

Touchstone Theater

To add your organization to this list, Contact VGP

QUOTE #1

"It says that in regards to the institution of marriage, legal marriage is between a man and a woman and I still stand by that."

-- State Representative Pat Browne, from the TV news report on the Freedom to Marry Day Action, when asked by a reporter what the PA State Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) says.

QUOTE #2

"I am certainly not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions. But laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors."

--Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.

QUOTE #3

"The Charter was enshrined to ensure that the rights of minorities are not subjected, are never subjected, to the will of the majority. The rights of Canadians who belong to a minority group must always be protected by virtue of their status as citizens, regardless of their numbers. These rights must never be left vulnerable to the impulses of the majority." **-- Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin on Bill C-38 (The Civil Marriage Act) speaking about rights guaranteed by the Canadian Charter which is similar to the Constitution**

Distelfink© by Ruby Zebu 3/05 "Her Aunt's a lesbian"

Will Daffney finally get a date? ·Stayed tuned.

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Gay Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VGP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.